

*...Strengthening
the health
and well being of
Nebraska Youth.*



Nebraska Youth are the Stars of Our Future.

Helping young people achieve their full potential is the best way to prevent them from becoming involved in risky behavior. Together we can...



Ensure young people have healthy relationships with caring, supportive adults.



Provide safe, stable and supportive environments to thrive and grow.



Offer opportunities for youth to actively develop critical life skills.



Advocate clear expectations and high standards for all youth.



Provide youth with opportunities to participate in meaningful ways in their community.



About the Partnership.

Nebraska Partnerships for Positive Youth Development is a statewide initiative of people and organizations dedicated to the health and well-being of Nebraska youth. We have joined together to share ideas, resources and expertise so that all youth might experience their adolescence in a positive, productive way.

Our focus is to:

- Bring about a significant cultural shift in the attitudes, values and behaviors of youth in Nebraska.
- Engage appropriate entities as collaborators in the process of cultural and environmental reform for the benefit of youth.
- Provide opportunities, resources, training and materials to youth and all who work with them.
- Advocate for positive environments and opportunities for youth within families, schools and social institutions, business and faith communities, health care organizations and peer groups.



What is Positive Youth Development?

Positive Youth Development (PYD) is an approach to providing for and working with youth as they navigate the life stage of adolescence. Services and opportunities that take a PYD approach emphasize building competence, usefulness, belonging and empowerment in youth.

Communities that structure their youth services within a PYD approach find their efforts are most successful when young people and adults come together to work as equal partners. Seeking and providing youth input when creating youth services and opportunities is crucial. Positive Youth Development experiences should be about, for and by youth.



Building and Supporting Positive Youth Development in Your Community.

Nebraska communities reflect the diversity and uniqueness that is our state. Whether metropolitan, rural or truly frontier, each identifies and cultivates their own distinctive approach to building community strength and resolving issues. Building healthy environments that provide positive opportunities and experiences for youth is part of what makes every Nebraska community unique.

You don't need to start from scratch to build community support for Positive Youth Development. Groups and organizations in your community already exist and can offer the foundation for a Positive Youth Development initiative in your area.

- Community and regional coalitions.
- Formal and informal parent groups such as PTA and adult/youth support groups for youth sports.
- Business organizations such as Businesses of Commerce, Rotary, Lions and Optimists Clubs, Legion groups and Auxiliaries.
- Regional and local public health departments and organizations.
- University county extension offices.
- Faith-based groups for adults and youth.

You can begin by finding out more about positive youth development and then sharing that information with local elected officials, youth service agency staff, coworkers, friends and neighbors.

Join the Initiative —
*Nebraska Partnerships for
Positive Youth Development.*

Become an active participant in this exciting new initiative.
Go to: www.hhss.ne.gov/hew/fah/PositiveYouthDevelopment
for the latest information.

*Advocates for Positive
Youth Development.*

Behavioral Health Regions 3, 4 and 5
Blue Valley Community Action Partnership
City of Norfolk
Elkhorn, Logan Valley Public Health Department
Nebraska Children and Families Foundation
Nebraska Health and Human Services System
Nebraska State Patrol, Troop B, Norfolk
Panhandle Prevention Coalition for
Children Youth and Families
Project Extra Mile
TeamMates Mentoring Program
University of Nebraska—
Lincoln Extension, Madison County



NEBRASKA HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM



State of Nebraska
Department of Health and Human Services, Regulation and Licensure
Office of Family Health
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ADA/EOE/AA